

January 8, 1962

1. Indonesia
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## 1. INDONESIA

Sukarno's continued threats to "take over" West New Guinea are strongly condemned by observers. The Netherlands' conciliatory proposals "opened the door to the possibility of a mutually satisfactory outcome," the Washington Post and others maintain, but Sukarno's refusal to negotiate except on his own terms constitutes "an impossible demand for abject surrender" by the Dutch (e.g., Washington Star, N. Y. Times, Phila. Inquirer, Chicago News, Scripps-Howard press, Louisville Courier-Journal).

The Netherlands, having invited peaceful change in West New Guinea by UN procedures, is entitled to the full support of the world community in guaranteeing that the change will be a peaceful one, Walter Lippmann contends.

Indonesia has put a premium on force, an "inexcusable posture for any member of the UN to assume," most commenting stress. A number share the Scripps-Howard view that "success of the UN experiment at developing a warless world depends upon self-restraint and adherence to moral principle by UN members." The UN is "still the best hope for a stable and peaceful world," the New York Times asserts, but it warns "the smaller and weaker nations especially should guard against perverting UN principles for selfish ends, lest the collapse of the UN bury them as well."

The matter should be placed in the hands of the UN for a mandate or trusteeship settlement, in the opinion of a sizable number of commentators (e.g., Inquirer, Lippmann, St. Louis Post-Dispatch). "If the UN actually had the power and the will to compel decency in the world it simply would tell other nations to stay away from New Guinea," Scripps-Howard's Washington News suggests.

The Providence Journal, however, concerned about "symptoms of Sukarno's personal decline" and the "forces of anarchy operating in his country," warns of the possibility of a Communist "take-over in Djakarta. Even if a peaceful settlement should be achieved by a withdrawal of the Dutch, the possibility of a projection of hostile power into West New Guinea cannot be ruled out. Australia may yet have to look to her security, and the Western powers to their strategic requirements in that part of the world," says the Journal.

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## 2. CUBA

The U.S. "White Paper" should "impress" Latin American waverers who have been reluctant to agree on a collective attitude toward Cuba, several commenting believe. It is "timely that it should be made available" when the Foreign Ministers are about to meet for the "very purpose of evaluating" the subversive threat from Castro's regime. It should "bolster" U.S. efforts to persuade the OAS to condemn Cuba as a Soviet satellite as "a step toward stronger action," the Philadelphia Inquirer and others add (similarly, Wash. Star, N. Y. Her. Trib.).

Cuba must be "censured and isolated without weakening the OAS," the New York Times declares. The Washington Post emphasizes that "whatever is done" to hasten Castro's "day of reckoning" must not be "based on attempts to scuttle the gains of the revolution," but must be "accompanied by an affirmative policy aimed at providing an acceptable alternative to a revolution" that Castro betrayed. The Baltimore Sun observes that "the Trujillo case has shown that intervention properly applied can be an agent not of repression but of freedom."

But a U.S. move is held urgent, if OAS nations "falter." William Randolph Hearst Jr. is "glad to see our State Department isn't just resting on its White Paper but pushing OAS to give Fidel an ultimatum to break with the Reds pronto." With several others, Hearst reminds that the U.S. "has the legal justification and the moral obligation to use power against Castro." And that if "the military buildup in Cuba is not checked immediately, every country in Central America can be threatened with invasion" (David Lawrence and Daniel James). "There will be little use in sending funds if nothing is done to challenge--by arms, if necessary--the Communist takeover of Cuba" which the White Paper "officially reveals," Lawrence continues.

Daniel James' view that "whatever happens at Uruguay, the U. S. must take the lead in deposing the Cuban Communist regime," is shared by the New York Mirror. The Mirror declares that though the OAS will probably "compromise" on "a strong position against Castro," to "stop short of real action," is "to put your head in a noose."